

# SH●GUN 2004

SPECIAL EDITION – THE YEAR IN REVIEW



# 18th WG commander reflects on this year's accomplishments

By Brig. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas  
18th Wing commander



Happy Holidays, Team Kadena – you truly deserve them this year! Our wing and its great associate partners demonstrated again in 2004 that we are ready to support our nation whenever called upon, and wherever we are needed.

From sustaining the stability of the Asia-Pacific region to fighting in the front lines of the

war in Iraq, our men and women met and overcame every challenge – we should be very proud of that, and all the accomplishments of Kadena's Airmen in the last twelve months. Your hard work and sacrifices continue to deter our potential adversaries, and make possible the ongoing success and eventual victory against America's enemies. Thank you for what you do in service to our country every day!

In 2004 more than 2,000 of our Airmen deployed to Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom—to Talil, Balad, Bagram, and other air bases and army posts in the combat arena.

At the same time over 900 Airmen from other locations deployed to Kadena to enhance regional stability. While deployed some of our men and women found themselves performing unusual duty; armed with squad automatic weapons and manning M-50s, they protected Army convoys on some of the most dangerous roads in Iraq. Tent cities took enemy mortar fire, convoys were

***"...as we reflect on a busy year and the many accomplishments of our Airmen over the last 12 months, we should take a moment to realize how blessed we are as American servicemembers, DoD employees, and family members...and how remarkably we perform as members of Team Kadena."***

attacked....and six of our own received bronze stars for their bravery and leadership.

Team Kadena is justifiably proud of them and all our Airmen who deployed this past year.

At home we continued to train, exercise, and hone our combat edge. Kadena Airmen deployed in support of a dozen major exercises and a number of smaller events. As the year progressed, our pilots engaged aircraft from other nations over Alaska, tankers refueled special missions, special operators trained allies in the Philippines, and our pararescuemen put their skills to work in the Horn of Africa.

Many of the exercises were 'real world' to those in need, as we engaged in what we do so well as America's Air Force—helping others; many grateful people received U.S. medical care from our medics in places like Thailand and Cambodia. And during this holiday season our Airmen spent a week in the Philippines, where they provided greatly needed humanitarian support to people who lost everything in the wake of devastating storms. They made it back home for the holidays, but many others, from Kadena and other U.S. bases around the globe, will not be with their families this season.

Let us all reserve a place in our thoughts, hearts, and prayers for those serving our great nation on the front lines of the global war on ter-

rorism this holiday.

In addition to the many operational challenges we faced in 2004, we also owe a debt to Mother Nature for making this a year that we'll never forget. Four typhoons—Super Typhoon Dianmu in June, Typhoons Songda and Maeri in September, and Typhoon Tokage in October—battered the island. These were in addition to tropical storms which, combined with the typhoons, forced no less than 11 aircraft typhoon evacuations—an unheard of number, all achieved without injuries or a major impact to the mission of this wing. Well done, Team Kadena!

Lastly, as we reflect on a busy year and the many accomplishments of our Airmen over the last 12 months, we should take a moment to realize how blessed we are as American servicemembers, DoD employees, and family members...and how remarkably we perform as members of Team Kadena. I have no doubt that the new year will provide its own share of challenges...but we will overcome them as we have so many others in the past.

Take the time now to relax—don't drink and drive—and remember...every day is Wingman Day. I look forward to seeing all of you in 2005 for the start of another great year at the best air base in the Pacific.

Happy Holidays and best wishes to all!

## 5 AF commander sends holiday greetings

By Lt. Gen. Thomas Waskow  
5th Air Force commander

The holiday season is a time for reflection. It's a time when we can look back and remember all that we've accomplished throughout the past year and carry forward fond memories as well as lessons learned into the new year. As 2004 draws to a close, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on all that we have accomplished in Fifth Air Force this year.

We've hosted community events, like Special Olympics, within our gates and participated in cultural festivals outside them. We've trained tirelessly with our Japanese counterparts to

ensure we are ready for any contingency. And when called to action following a destructive earthquake in October, members of the Fifth Air Force responded quickly to our host nation's request for supplies.

Even while we focus on our mission here in Japan, many of our forces have deployed throughout the year in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Even now during this holiday season, men and women from Fifth Air Force are deployed around the globe fighting the enemies of freedom. I ask you to keep those brave Airmen in your thoughts and prayers as we celebrate the joy of the season.

Also, I urge each of you to maximize the time

spent with families. As I am sure each of you would agree, it's not just the men and women in uniform who sacrifice for our nation. Our military families are the backbone of the greatest Air Force the world has ever known. It is they who maintain the homefront when our Airmen are called away. Their sacrifice, dedication to service, and support of our Airmen are truly inspirational.

I want to personally thank you for the sacrifice you make daily so that others can live freely. It's my privilege to be your commander and my honor to serve with you.

Sheila and I wish you a safe and joyous holiday season.



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All copy and other printed material is handled by 18th Wing Public Affairs, Building 128, Kadena Air Base, Japan. The mailing address is 18WG/PAI, Unit 5141 Box 30, APO AP 96368-5141. Phone DSN 634-3457/5665. Fax 634-2344.

The submission deadline for information to be printed in The Kadena Shogun is 4:30 p.m. on Fridays, seven days before the desired print date.

For editorial submissions, send E-mail to [kadenashogun.newspaper@kadena.af.mil](mailto:kadenashogun.newspaper@kadena.af.mil).

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**ON THE COVER: Staff Sgt. Shaneeka Horn, 18th Security Forces Squadron, keeps a watchful eye out for an enemy attack during an 18th Wing operational readiness exercise Nov.**

**17. The wing tested its ability to deploy and conduct operations in a chemical and biological environment during four exercises throughout the year. (Photo by Airman Stephanie Sinclair; cover design by Staff Sgt. Jason Lake)**





Air Force/Staff Sgt. Anika Williams

Members of the 18th Wing staff agencies were the first to take part in the Air Force's new fitness assessment Jan. 8. The test, which included a 1.5 mile run, pushups, situps and abdominal measurement, was introduced to Airmen in July 2003 in Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper's "Fit to Fight" Sight Picture.



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower

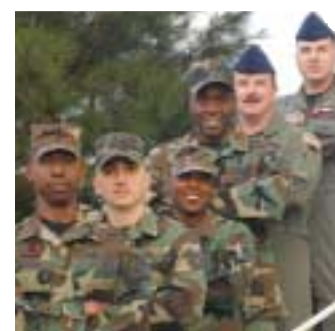
**TOPS IN BLUE:** Air Force Tops in Blue reenact a scene from basic training in the Air Force's early years during their 50th anniversary tour at Kadena Jan. 9-10. More than 1,800 people came out to watch the show entitled, "Soaring with Eagles."

**SPRAY AWAY:** Staff Sgt. John Plugrad, 909th Air Refueling Squadron, de-ices the tail wing of a KC-135 Stratotanker prior to takeoff from Kwang Ju Air Base, South Korea, Jan. 24. More than 115 Kadena Airmen deployed to South Korea during the 18th Wing's first operational readiness exercise of the year.



Air Force/Tech. Sgt. Richard Freeland

## Quick Shots



## JANUARY 9

- The 18th Wing began testing Kadena Airmen using the new Air Force fitness standards.

- Chief Master Sgt. Greg Duncan, 18th Munitions Squadron, was awarded the Bronze Star for his actions during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

- Kadena officials readdressed child supervision guidelines after a string of violations were reported to the 18th Security Forces Squadron.

- Defense Commissary officials continued to monitor beef at base commissaries after the U.S. Department of Agriculture recalled 10,000 lbs. of beef possibly infected with mad cow disease Dec. 23, 2003.



## JANUARY 16

- Two Kadena families won \$25,000 after collecting game pieces for a fast food contest.

- Chaplain (Maj.) Michael Warner, deployed to Iraq from Kadena, helped orchestrate efforts to collect donations for local residents.

- Pentagon officials resumed anthrax vaccinations after a federal judge ruled that the defense department could legally administer the vaccine to servicemembers.

- Community relations specialists from 18th Wing Public Affairs escorted Okinawan residents to sacred sites on Kadena that belong to their families. Each year more than 100 Okinawan families request a tour to visit sacred family shrines on base.



## JANUARY 23

- Getting in and out of Kadena's air passenger terminal got easier after 733rd Air Mobility Squadron officials reopened a renovated terminal Jan. 15.

- Officials from the 18th Services Squadron opened two new lodging facilities Jan. 16. The \$41.8 million project replaced 10 older buildings from the 1940's and 1950's, and added 293 rooms to the Shogun Inn lodging.

- Kadena's Girl Scouts kicked off their annual cookie campaign to sell more than 2,100 cases of cookies.

- Dozens of volunteers helped raise nearly \$4,500 at the commissary for the upcoming Kadena Special Olympic Games.



## JANUARY 30

- More than 118 Kadena Airmen deployed to South Korea during the 18th Wing's first operational readiness exercise.

- Finance officials promoted participation for the Defense Department Overseas Housing Allowance survey.

- Water levels in Okinawan water reservoirs continued to drop and prompted Kadena officials to start a base water conservation campaign.

- More than a dozen senior master sergeants were officially inducted into the Air Force's top enlisted rank during Kadena's chief induction ceremony Jan. 23. More than 500 people attended the event as well as congratulate the inductees.





## Quick Shots



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Michael Pallazola  
**A Japanese athlete sprints down Kuter Avenue during the 12th Annual Okinawa Marathon that passed through Kadena Feb. 22. More than 9,000 international runners took part in the event.**



Air Force/Tech. Sgt. Richard Freeland

**(Counter clockwise from top) INCREASING PROTECTION:** Lt. Col. Gus Green, (former) 18th Security Forces Squadron commander, shows members of the Japanese military how to make improvised protective improvements to a Humvee at Kadena during a briefing Jan. 16. The historic exchange shared lessons learned from desert deployments with Japanese military officials deploying for the first time since World War II.

**GETTING THEIR FEET WET:** A 31st Rescue Squadron pararescuemen dangles from an HH-60 Pavehawk helicopter during a joint training session with Japan Air Self Defense Force members Feb. 17. The pararescuemen tested their ability to recover victims from a simulated aircraft crash.

**A GIFT FOR DEPLOYED LOVED ONES:** Crystal Bernardo, wife of Staff Sgt. Nelson Bernardo, 18th Civil Engineer Squadron, poses for a Valentine's Day glamour photo courtesy of the Family Support Center. Spouses of deployed servicemembers were offered the chance to send their loved ones photos to help raise morale at their deployed location.



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Michael Pallazola

### FEBRUARY 6

- Members of the 18th Security Forces Squadron took part in a historic exchange with Japanese servicemembers preparing to deploy for the first time since World War II.

- Base officials banned car washes after local media reports indicated an upcoming water shortage.

- Tech. Sgt. William McQueen was presented the Japan-American Air Force Goodwill Association award—for fostering better relations in Japan—during Kadena's annual award ceremony Jan. 31.

- Half a dozen Kadena residents learned how to make rice cakes courtesy of the Okinawa Friendship Council.



### FEBRUARY 13

- Three Kadena Airmen won a total of \$9,000 as a result of an Air Force Club membership drive.

- Kadena leadership addressed base concerns during a town hall broadcast on the American Forces Network Feb. 4.

- Kadena's Family Support Center staff teamed up with spouses of deployed Airmen to send Valentine's Day glamour photos to their loved ones.

- Base residents celebrated African-American Heritage Month during a culture expedition at Kadena High School Feb. 7.

- Tech. Sgt. Brian Gates, 18th Security Forces Squadron, was named the Air Force's 2003 top security forces NCO.



### FEBRUARY 20

- Pararescuemen from the 33rd Rescue Squadron practiced their life saving skills with Japan Air Self Defense Force officials during an exercise Feb. 17.

- More than 200 students from 13 Department of Defense Dependent Schools took part in the 2004 Far East Drill Competition, including Kadena High School.

- A dozen Kadena residents got more than a spoonful of Japanese culture during a tea ceremony sponsored by the Family Support Center Feb. 12.

- Just weeks after W-2s became available, dozens of volunteers helped Kadena taxpayers with their income tax forms.



### FEBRUARY 27

- More than 9,000 athletes ran through Kadena's gates as part of the 12th Annual Okinawa Marathon Feb. 22.

- Defense Commissary officials initiated a meat recall after an Okinawan family suffered from a suspected case of food poisoning.

- A dozen Kadena volunteers visited Kitami Elementary School Feb. 20 to teach third grade students basic English during the school's open house.

- Dozens of volunteers helped raise more than 1,000 lbs. of food for the Kadena Kennel through a Doggy Dash race Feb. 21.

- Three senior NCOs were awarded \$10,000 for contributions to the Air Force's IDEA program.





## Quick Shots



Air Force/Master Sgt. Val Gempis  
Tech. Sgt. Carl Lane (left), and Airman 1st Class John Ritter, both from the 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron's combat mobility element, recover a parachute after an airdrop training exercise at Basa Air Base, Philippines, during exercise Balikatan 2004. Approximately 2,500 American and 2,300 Philippine forces took part in the exercise.



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Michael Pallazola

**FIELD MEDICINE:** A dozen 18th Medical Group technicians finish pulling down the roof tarp cover Feb. 26 for a field hospital during a Silver Flag exercise at Kadena. More than 240 Airmen from the group participated in the exercise to test their skills in an austere environment.

**COLD SCIENCE:** Senior Airman Matt Porter and Senior Airman Irvin Pigott, 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron, demonstrate the effects of liquid nitrogen on various objects to a group of fifth graders from Amelia Earhart Intermediate School March 12.



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower

## MARCH 5

- Staff Sgt. Joshua Aldrich, a 1st Special Operations Squadron loadmaster, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his contributions to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

- Kadena Airmen were among 2,500 Americans that participated in exercise Balikatan in the Philippines.

- The 733rd Air Mobility Squadron and 18th Dental Squadron were awarded Commander's Cup Trophies for the best large and small units participating in basewide sports programs.

- Gen. John Handy, Air Mobility Command commander, explained cutbacks in the Patriot Express transit system during a



## MARCH 12

visit to Kadena.

- Hundreds of Kadena residents participated in the sixth annual Okinawa Joint Women's Forum at Kadena High School March 6.

- Kadena officials asked residents to continue water conservation measures after reports that Okinawa's water supply dropped below 50 percent.

- Kadena-trained Okinawan Special Olympics hockey players were ranked best in Japan during the Japan National Games in Nagano March 5.

- Capt. Chris Fuller, 18th Civil Engineer Squadron, was named the Air Force's 2003 outstanding civil engineer military manager for his actions at Bagram Air Base,



## MARCH 19

Afghanistan.

- Twenty-seven Kadena master sergeants heard they would be getting promoted to senior master sergeant.

- Twenty students from Amelia Earhart Intermediate School received science lessons courtesy of Airmen from the 18th Aerospace Medicine Squadron and 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron March 12.

- Kadena civil engineer officials announced plans to reduce water pressure on base as water levels continued to drop.

- Security forces officials continued to catch people violating speed limits and seat-belt laws after the wing commander signed a zero tolerance campaign three months ear-



## MARCH 26

lier.

- Kadena prepared for water rationing measures that would turn off water from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. beginning March 29.

- Camp Lester Naval Hospital medical staff helped save the life of newborn baby Cheyanne Kendrick, daughter of Airman 1st Class Kevin, 18th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and Sharon Kendrick.

- Kadena officials held a National Prayer Luncheon at the Rocker NCO Club March 19.

- Air Force officials named the Kadena Shogun Newspaper the second best newspaper in the Air Force





## Quick Shots



Air Force/Master Sgt. Brad Carder



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower

**FOLLOW THE LEADER:** Medical "evacuees" walk toward the tail of a Yokota Air Base C-130 Hercules during an aeromedical evacuation exercise April 1 at Kadena. Medics from the 18th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron evacuated more than 25 fake patients during the exercise.

**STATUS REPORT:** Staff Sgt. Leslie Schafferman, 18th Medical Operations Squadron, calls in the status of injured Airmen during a mass casualty exercise April 17.



Air Force/Master Sgt. Brad Carder

Staff Sgt. Robert Guanga configures his long haul transmission equipment in full protective gear following a simulated chemical attack April 21. Hundreds of Kadena Airmen participated in the wing's second operational readiness exercise of the year.

### APRIL 2

- Water rationing measures island-wide were put on hold after substantial rainfall the weekend before implementation.

- Kadena firefighters trained alongside Okinawan firefighters during a joint training exercise March 16-19.

- Members of the Kadena men's and women's dragon boat racing teams practiced with members of the Japan Air Self Defense Force team to hone their rowing skills.



### APRIL 9

- Base officials placed three off base clubs off limits for various policy infractions.

- Medics from the 18th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron evacuated 25 simulated patients during a training exercise April 1.

- Members of the 353rd Special Operations Group practiced field medical training in South Korea during exercise Foal Eagle.

- 554th Red Horse Squadron civil engineers held joint training with their JASDF counterparts March 25-April 2.



### APRIL 16

- Nearly 300 children took part in Kadena's Community Easter Egg Hunt at Four Diamonds softball field April 10.

- Kadena and Kubasaki high schools received a \$14,000 grant from the Major League Baseball Players Association's Baseball Tomorrow Fund.

- Capt. Kenneth Daniels, 320th Special Tactics Squadron, was named the Air Force Special Operations Command's Company Grade Officer of the Year.



### APRIL 23

- Mallory Lewis, daughter of Shari Lewis who created the puppet Lamb Chop, performed for Bob Hope Elementary School children April 14.

- The 353rd Maintenance Squadron held a memorial service for two Airmen who drowned off the coast of Cape Zanpa April 15. The deaths prompted base leaders to launch an aggressive education program on water safety.



### APRIL 30

- Kadena tested its wartime skills during its second operational readiness exercise of the year.

- Kadena's Family Support Center was named the best in the Air Force.

- Thousands Kadena residents celebrated Earth Week through various activities such as Earth-Fest April 24.

- Two members of the Department of Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services visited Kadena April 26-27.

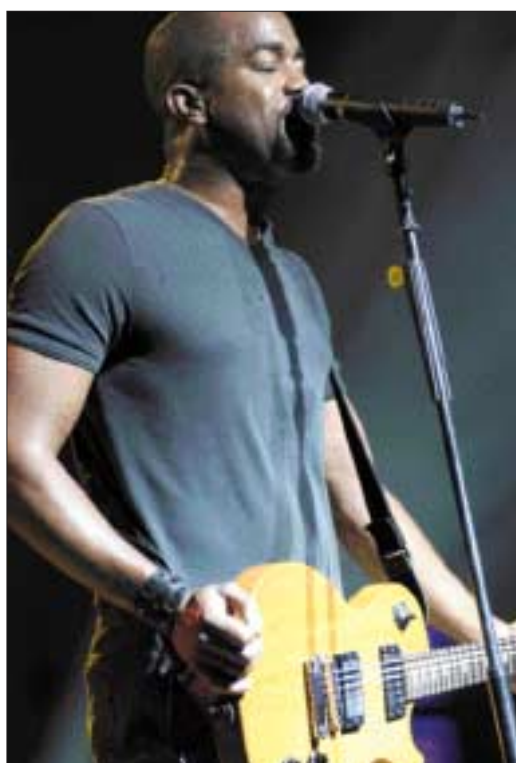






Air Force/Chiaki Iramina

Members of the Kadena men's dragon boat team row toward the finish line during the 30th Annual Naha Dragon Boat Race May 5. The Kadena men's team finished second against its sister service competitors, while the Kadena women's team finished third overall against the Marine Corps, Army and Navy teams.



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Chenzira Mallory



Air Force/Master Sgt. Adam Johnston

**KEEPING THE BUGS OUT:** Tech. Sgt. Bryan Gray hands out mosquito nets to a Cham-Muslim woman in a village near Kep, Cambodia, May 20. Sergeant Gray was part of a 20-member team to deploy on a two-week humanitarian mission to Cambodia to provide medical assistance.

**HOOTIE:** Hootie and the Blowfish perform at Kadena along with the Air Force Reserve Band and New England Patriot cheerleaders as part of Operation Pacific Greetings May 15.

## Quick Shots



## MAY 14

- The 390th Intelligence Squadron earned high ratings on its Air Combat Command unit compliance inspection.

- 18th Services Squadron officials prepared to be evaluated by the Air Force LeMay team for customer service, facility standards and base activities.

- Kadena's men and women dragon boat racers participated in the 30th Annual Naha Dragon Boat Race May 5.

- 18th Civil Engineer Squadron officials searched for dorm manager recruits as the summer moving season approached.

- More than 60 chefs and 350 guests raised more than \$4,500 for the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority May 1 during a "Men Who Cook" fundraiser.

- More than 300 people participated in the Special Olympics 5k Fun Run fundraiser May 1. Organizers also held a golf tournament fundraiser May 3.



## MAY 21

- More than 4,500 people attended a concert that included performances by the Air Force Reserve Band, New England Patriots cheerleader squad and Hootie and the Blowfish May 15.

- Kadena medics deployed to Kep, Cambodia to provide humanitarian relief for local residents.

- Members of the 353rd Special Operations Group deployed to Thailand to practice air drops during exercise Cobra Gold.

- Staff Sgt. Laurence Littleton was awarded \$10,000 for saving the Air Force \$107,000 by finding a better way to replace a two-inch piece of plastic.

- Kadena Top 3 officials sponsored a "Buck-a-Stripe" campaign to help build a new assisted-living quarters at Enlisted Village near Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.



## MAY 28

- More than a dozen Kadena Airmen donated supplies and building materials, and helped renovate a playground at a school in Udorn Thani, Thailand May 19.

- Kadena medics helped distribute more than 1,000 mosquito nets to three Cham-Muslim villages in Cambodia.

- The Kadena Top 3 sponsored a junior enlisted appreciation day at Marek Park.

- More than 60 martial artists competed in the Kadena Cup Martial Arts Challenge at Amelia Earhart Intermediate School May 22.

- Master Sgt. Donald Ward, 18th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, was named the Air Force's Leo Marquez award winner for aircraft maintenance in the supervisor category.





## Quick Shots



Air Force/Tech. Sgt. Richard Freeland

Col. Brent Baker, 18th Mission Support Group commander, presents Mitsutaka Tokashiki his first place gold medal in the wheel chair softball toss during the Kadena Special Olympic Games June 12. More than 7,000 special needs athletes, artists, volunteers and fans came out for the fifth annual event. Retired sumo wrestler Musashimaru kicked off the games with the athlete's oath.



Air Force/Master Sgt. Michael Farris



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower

**GRADUATION:** Alicia Gazaway (center right) shows off her diploma to friends and family during the Kadena High School graduation ceremony June 5. Of the 167 graduates surveyed, 78 percent planned to continue their education, 12 percent planned to join the military, and 10 percent wanted to join the work force.

**JUMP:** A U.S. Army parachutist leaps from a Kadena C-130 Combat Talon II during a high-altitude, low-opening jump over Phitsanoluk, Thailand, during exercise Cobra Gold 2004.

### JUNE 4

- Kadena's Airmen Against Drunk Driving program reaches its 2,000-save milestone.

- Members of the 353rd Special Operations Group recorded more than 450 flight hours on 200 sorties while supporting exercise Cobra Gold in Thailand.

- Kadena celebrates Asian Pacific Heritage Month at the Rocker NCO Club.

- Amelia Earhart Intermediate School's drama class performed "Moe's Town" for hundreds who attended May 27.

- Air Force officials announced plans to cut more than 24,000 jobs by the end of 2005 due to record retention rates.



### JUNE 11

- Kadena officials geared up for the Special Olympic Games. More than 3,000 volunteers were forecasted to show up to the games.

- Exercise Cope North kicked off at Kadena bringing U.S. military and Japan Air Self Defense Forces together for joint training.

- More than 165 Kadena High School students graduated during a ceremony at the Keystone Theater June 4.

- Kadena mourned the death of former President Ronald Reagan by flying American flags at half staff for a month.

- Air Force officials announced that Air Expeditionary Force deployments would be permanently extended to four months.



### JUNE 18

- More than 7,000 special needs athletes, volunteers, fans and supporters participated in Kadena's 5th Annual Special Olympic Games June 12.

- After more than five months, base officials ended water rationing as reservoir levels reached almost 90 percent.

- 18th Wing commander, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Remington, completes his final flight at Kadena and thanks Team Kadena for its hard work and achievements.

- Airmen complete the Air Force's first convoy course designed to prepare Airmen for duty in Iraq.



### JUNE 25

- Brig. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas assumed command of the 18th Wing from Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Remington during a change of command ceremony June 24.

- More than 280 staff sergeants and 150 technical sergeants found out they'd be sewing on another stripe in the coming months.

- Col. Juan Ibanez Jr. takes command of the 18th Civil Engineer Group from Col. Steven Lillemon during a change of command ceremony June 18.

- 18th Maintenance Group maintainers completed a six-year F-15 Eagle engine upgrade that saved the Air Force more than \$100 million.







Air Force/Tech. Sgt. Richard Freeland



Air Force/Staff Sgt. D. Myles Cullen

(Counter clockwise from top) A SYMBOLIC REMINDER: With three American flags on board his F-15 Strike Eagle, Lt. Col. Matt Molloy, 67th Fighter Squadron commander, prepares for a mission at a forward-deployed location in Southwest Asia. Colonel Molloy carried the flags in his front canopy to represent his wife and two children.

GOING AGAINST THE TIDE: Keili Keoho, daughter of Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Kealoha Keoho of Torii Station's 1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group, watches the small turtle she released swim away into the South China Sea. More than 200 spectators and well-wishers came to see the scheduled release of hatchlings at Okuma Resort July 20.

GETTING DOWN & DIRTY: Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadet Maj. Tomi Yamamoto comes up for air after crawling through the 'pit and pond' during the endurance course in Okinawa's Northern Training Area.



Marine Corps/Cpl. Ryan Walker

## Quick Shots



### JULY 2

- Col. Norman Brozenick takes command of the 353rd Special Operations Group during a change of command ceremony June 25.

- The 67th Fighter Squadron was named the 2003 Raytheon Hughes Achievement Award winner.
- Air Force officials named Kadena's 18th Comptroller Squadron its Financial Management and Comptroller Organization of the Year.
- Gen. William Begert, Pacific Air Forces commander, retired.



### JULY 9

- Staff Sgt. Clint Thornton, 320th Special Tactics Squadron, received Australia's Unit Citation for Gallantry for actions during Operation Enduring Freedom.

- Ninety Junior ROTC cadets, including Kadena High School cadets, participated in a weeklong summer leadership program.
- More than 20 people completed a four-day aerobics instructor training course at the Risner Fitness Center beginning June 24.



### JULY 16

- Three Kadena pararescue men were named the best in the Air Force - 2nd Lt. Timothy Hanks, Master Sgt. Charles Stiefken and Senior Airman William Moore.

- The 18th Security Forces Squadron was recognized for the best Anti-Terrorism Program for an Operational Unit in Pacific Command.
- 18th Medical Group officials said water quality at U.S. military bases meet Japanese and American standards during an annual water quality report.



### JULY 23

- Kadena's 18th Services Squadron won five Air Force awards for - Enlisted Club, Fitness and Sports Program, Human Resources Office, Marketing and Youth Programs of the Year.

- Col. Kelley Kash assumed command of the 18th Medical Group from Col. Mark Presson during a change of command ceremony July 16.
- Col. David Freaney assumed command of the 18th Operations Group from Col. Joseph Ford, during a change of command ceremony July 16.



### JULY 30

- More than 250 children learned about deployments first-hand during Operation Kudos sponsored by the Family Support Center.

- Base officials warned off-base residents that they may need to file for Japanese parking certificates as political tension rises on the issue.
- Members of the 909th Air Refueling Squadron participated in exercise Cooperative Cope Thunder at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.





## Quick Shots



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower

**GURNEY:** Kadena Airmen and U.S. Navy Sailors transport Keith Groom to emergency care facilities at the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Lester Aug. 2. Groom was rescued from the ocean surveillance ship USNS Victorious 80 miles southwest of Okinawa by the 33rd Rescue Squadron for possible heart failure.



U.S. Navy/Amanda Woodhead



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Chenzira Mallory

**(Counter clockwise from top) SAFE!:** The 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron and the 18th Munitions Squadron competed in the men's intramural softball championship game Aug. 5. Although LRS seemed to be a shoe-in for the base champions, 18th MUNS toughed out five games in a row to win.

**BUG'S LIFE:** Joshua Farley, 9, takes his turn holding a wood spider during National Kids Day. The spider was one of a variety of insects available for children to view. About 2,000 people went to the free carnival held at Marek Park July 31.

**PAPERWORK:** Senior Airman Betty Mendoza, 17th Operations Support Squadron resource manager, works on several reports with Airman 1st Class John Hurlbutt. Airman Mendoza was named the Air Force Aviation Resource Management Airman of the Year for her outstanding work in 2003.



Air Force/Master Sgt. Michael Farris

## AUGUST 6

- More than 100 Kadena NCOs learned about the challenges they would soon face as senior NCOs during a senior NCO professional development seminar.

- Staff Sgt. William Moore, 31st Rescue Squadron, was named one of the Air Force's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.
- Senior Airman Betty Mendoza was named the Air Force Aviation Resource Management Airman of the Year.

- More than 300 Airman participated in the Air Force Sergeant Association's Summer Bash activities, and 2,000 people enjoyed Kid's Day at Marek Park July 31.



## AUGUST 13

- More than 120 NCOs were inducted into the senior NCO ranks Aug. 6 at the Rocker NCO Club.

- More than 350 senior airmen heard they would soon become NCOs.
- Chief Master Sgt. David Popp, Pacific Air Forces' command chief, showed Kadena Airmen the proposed new battle dress uniform Aug. 6.

- Capt. Catherine O'Brien was selected for the Federally Employed Women Military Meritorious Service Award.
- The 18th Munitions Squadron and 18th Maintenance Squadron teams won the intramural softball championships for the men and women's teams respectively.



## AUGUST 20

- Lt. Col. B.K. Hammer, 1st Special Operations Squadron, was named the Benjamin Davis Jr. Military Award winner for his professional leadership and community service.

- Kadena residents had a brush with Mother Nature as Tropical Storm Megi closed Kadena's gates for an evening Nov. 17.

- This week's issue highlighted Airman 1st Class Caroline George who served as a security escort in Iraq.
- Kadena Airmen prepared for the base's third operational readiness exercise.



## AUGUST 27

- The 18th Wing wrapped up its third operational readiness exercise of the year.

- Forty Okinawan and American children came together to participate in the Kadena Youth Center Lock-in Aug. 21.

- Department of Defense Dependent Schools officials announced plans to change school zones to balance enrollment and reduce crowding.

- This week's issue highlighted the importance of voting in the presidential election through a personal story by Tech. Sgt. Keith Tuten, a Florida absentee voter in the 2000 election.



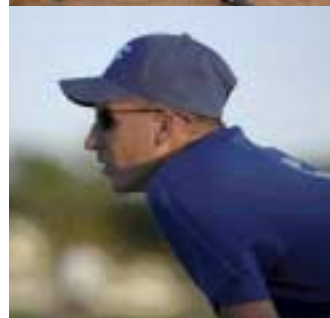




Staff Sgt. Chris Maleski, a boom operator with the 909th Air Refueling Squadron, lays in his "boom pod" at 10,000 feet, and watches intently as he guides an air refueling boom into the receptacle of a MC-130E Combat Talon from the 1st Special Operations Squadron.

Air Force/Master Sgt. Val Gempis

## Quick Shots



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Michael Pallazola

Staff Sgt. Corey Coleman, 18th Civil Engineer Squadron, holds his 1-year-old daughter Gabrielle for the first time in three months after returning from an AEF deployment to Tallil Air Base, Iraq, Sept. 2.

**YOUNG PILOT:** Kindal Lindsey sits inside the crew compartment of a rescue helicopter at AmericaFest 2004. About 15,000 people attended the event on Kadena's flight line.



Air Force/Senior Airman Mercedes McAllister

### SEPTEMBER 3

- Off base residents got news that they would have to acquire Japan parking certificates under a new requirement that started Sept. 1.

- Okinawa escaped the wrath of Mother Nature as Typhoon Chaba killed seven people in mainland Japan, but missed the island by more than 190 miles.

- 18th Security Forces officials warned residents to keep an eye on their belongings after more than 70 larceny cases were reported this summer.

- The Kadena USO donated more than 1,000 teddy bears to the 18th Medical Group as part of "Operation Stuffed with Hugs."



### SEPTEMBER 10

- More than 35 Kadena Airmen supporting AEF 10 returned to Kadena Sept. 2 from deployments to the Middle East.

- Typhoon Songda blasted Okinawa with 67 knot (77 mph) sustained winds and knocked out power in two-thirds of base housing.

- Team Kadena prepared for AmericaFest – a two-day open house on base. AmericaFest is one of the largest and most anticipated festivals in Okinawa.

- Kadena residents registered to vote during this year's Juneteenth celebration Sept. 4.



### SEPTEMBER 17

- Approximately 15,000 people visited Kadena Sept. 14-15 for AmericaFest 2004.

- 18th Civil Engineer Squadron officials said Typhoon Songda caused more than \$1 million in damage to Kadena facilities.

- The Kadena High School choir saluted the Armed Forces during a day of remembrance Sept. 11.

- 718th Civil Engineer Squadron officials reported that Kadena residents increased recycling efforts by 300 percent over a three month period.

- Kadena's Command Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Bishop told more than 500 Airmen that they would be moved to different dorms to maintain unit integrity.



### SEPTEMBER 24

- Kadena Airmen held a POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at the Rocker NCO Club Sept. 17.

- More than 260 Airmen from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, deployed to Kadena for a three-month temporary duty assignment.

- AAFES officials warn potential shoplifters that they are on the lookout and using security cameras.

- Kadena officials urge residents to participate in the Kadena Community Assessment Survey to help improve quality of life.





## Quick Shots



Courtesy photo

Members of a recovery team, made up of the 31st Rescue Squadron and Navy Explosive Ordinance Disposal, are hoisted up Aug. 11 during recovery efforts at the crash site of a U.S. Navy S-3B Viking on Kita Iwo Jima. In October, the 31st RQS assisted the Navy in recovering the remains of the Viking's crew.



Courtesy photo



Air Force/Staff Sgt. Chenzira Mallory

**DIGGING UP THE DIRT:** Katherine Larson, three-year-old daughter of Marine Chief Warrant Officer Allison Larson, 1st Marine Air Wing, digs through the dirt in a potato digging contest during the Noguni Sokan Festival hosted by Kadena Town.

**CLEANING UP THE NEIGHBORHOOD:** Master Sgt. Pierre Alcidas picks up trash along the Sunabe Seawall, west of Kadena, with more than 65 volunteers from the base. Sergeant Alcidas volunteered for the cleanup and is assigned to the 961st Airborne Air Control Squadron.

### OCTOBER 1

- AAFES officials announced a new gas pricing policy that would adjust prices monthly instead of annually.
- More than 65 volunteers helped clean up trash along the Sunabe Seawall.
- Hundreds of people attended this year's Okuma Fest sponsored by the 18th Services Squadron.
- Sixty Kadena Airmen participated in Ulchi Focus Lens, an exercise in South Korea.
- More than 800 attended this year's Air Force Ball.



### OCTOBER 8

- Kadena pararescue-men helped recover the remains of a Navy S-3B Viking that crashed on Kita Iwo Jima Aug. 10.
- Japanese officials began enforcing a "no cellphone while driving" law.
- Two Kadena F-15s collided in mid-air 125-miles south of Okinawa. Both pilots safely recovered their aircraft.
- Kadena pararescumen supported Operation Enduring Freedom while deployed to the Horn of Africa.



### OCTOBER 15

- After nearly two years and \$4.8 million in improvements, Kadena's Tee House Golf Course Restaurant opened for business Oct. 11.
- Lt. Gen. Thomas Waskow, U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force commander, flew his official final flight Oct. 8 at Kadena.
- More than 450 people turned out for the Kadena fire department's fire prevention week activities.



### OCTOBER 22

- Japan Air Self Defense Force aircraft began flying alert missions from Kadena during construction on Naha Airport's runway.
- Typhoon Tokage battered Okinawa with 77 knot (88 mph) winds, and dumped more than 5 inches of rain.
- More than 220 first graders and Sure Start preschoolers were screened by Navy optometrists and Kadena medical technicians.
- More than 300 people participated in Oktoberfest activities at the Officers Club Oct. 23.



### OCTOBER 29

- Gen. Paul Hester, Pacific Air Forces Commander, visited the base to discuss issues affecting Kadena Airmen.
- 18th Medical Group officials said only high risk individuals and deploying Airmen would receive flu shots this year.
- Air Force, Marine and Navy civil engineers competed in the US PACOM Airfield Damage Repair Commander's Cup competition. The Marine team won the four-day competition.
- "Ask Eiko" premiered in the culture section of this issue.







Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower

**ROMANCE:** Capt. Bradley Pyburn, 18th Communications Squadron deputy commander, and his wife, Jackie, look at historic pictures of Kadena put up by the history office at the 18th Wing Dining-out Nov. 5. More than 600 people attended the Dining-out, celebrating 50 years of 18th Wing history at Kadena.

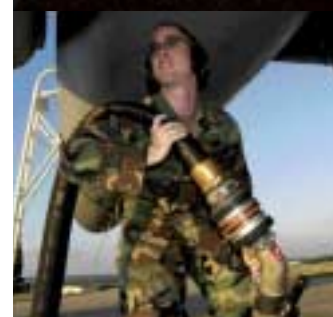
**FIRE DEPT:** Ninth grader Matt Correia, 14, moves a weight using a sledge hammer as part of a firefighter's obstacle course held at Kadena High School Oct. 29. More than 500 students competed in various tasks, such as spraying a ball into a soccer goal using a fire hose.

**WORKING THE GATE:** Airman 1st Class Denise Garcia, 18th Security Forces Squadron, checks identification cards as cars pass through Gate 5 on Kadena Nov. 1. Gate 5 opened for all access due to the closure of Gate 2, which is scheduled to be under construction until September 2005.



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower

## Quick Shots



## NOVEMBER 5

- Gate 5 opened to all traffic due to the closure of Gate 2, which is closed for construction until September 2005.

- Pacific Air Forces officials named the 18th Civil Engineer Group the "Best in PACAF."

- Kadena schools participated in Red Ribbon Week Oct. 22-29. The schools provided red ribbons, petitioned to be drug free, and hosted a parade and carnival to raise drug awareness.

- More than 50 Japanese students and teachers from Kitatama Elementary School in Chatan Town were escorted by Kadena volunteers for trick or treating in the Jennings Housing area on Halloween.



## NOVEMBER 12

- More than 600 military members and guests celebrated 50 years of Air Force history at Kadena during the 18th Wing Dining-out Nov. 5.

- Nineteen of Kadena's senior master sergeants were selected for promotion to chief master sergeant Nov. 11.

- 2nd Lt. Timothy Hanks and Master Sgt. Michael Bowers helped save a Japanese man who was engulfed in flames after his motorcycle exploded during an accident.

- More than 45,000 people, including Kadena residents, attended the annual Okinawa City International Carnival outside Gate 2.



## NOVEMBER 19

- The wing commander announced that Chief Master Sgt. Clinton Camac would assume the role of Kadena's command chief in February.

- Kadena officials renamed the Professional Development Center in honor of Master Sgt. William McDaniel II, a Kadena pararescueman who was killed in a helicopter crash off the coast of the Philippines.

- Chief Master Sgt. Lawrence Savidge, 18th Security Forces Squadron, was awarded the Bronze Star Nov. 10 for his efforts in supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.



## NOVEMBER 26

- Kadena officials designated Nov. 22 as "Wingman Day" designed locally to reinforce the 18th Wing's commitment, as a team, to looking after Airmen and their families.

- Approximately 400 Airmen from the 18th Wing joined 3,000 Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the Keen Sword 2005 exercise—a 10-day joint/bilateral field training exercise. The exercise was held at U.S. and Japanese military installations throughout mainland Japan.

- Brig. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas signed a Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month proclamation decreeing organizations to join together and "take a stand against impaired driving."





## Quick Shots



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower  
1st Lt. Kevin Dormer, 67th Fighter Squadron pilot, secures his wife, Angela, into the back seat of an F-15 Eagle as part of the 67th FS Red Carpet and Career Day Dec. 3. Families were able to spend the day together, see what the squadron does day-to-day, and receive a high-speed taxi ride down the runway.



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower



Air Force/Airman 1st Class Heather Tower

**MAIL ELF:** Casey Jarrett, wife of Senior Airman Wayne Jarrett, 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle operations, volunteers at the post office to help out for the holidays. More than 3 million pounds of mail will be delivered to and from the post office during the holiday season.

**SANTA:** Marina Benavides, 9-month-old daughter of Sonya Benavides, Department of Defense kindergarten teacher, sits on Santa Claus lap during a photo session in the Schilling Community Center parking lot for Tinsel Town 2004. Tinsel Town provided many activities for families during the holiday season to include the Nutcracker Cirque, a carnival, crafts and children's rides.

## DECEMBER 3

- The Department of Defense's top military personnel official said the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act would fund a 3.5 percent troop pay raise plus a BAH increase to eliminate servicemembers' out of pocket costs for family housing.

- Three Kadena Airmen from the 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron were awarded the Bronze Star for their contributions to the War on Terrorism while serving in Iraq. Master Sgt. Jonathan Tucker and Tech. Sgts. Michael Harris and William Dominy were presented medals during two separate ceremonies.

- The Lady Panthers, Kadena High School's girls basketball team, won the 35th Hong Kong International School Holiday Basketball Tournament 55 to 50 Nov. 27. It was the first time in the tournament's 35-year history that the Kadena Lady Panthers won the title.



## DECEMBER 10

- More than 5,500 Kadena members came out to see the 18th Services Squadron's Tinsel Town festivities beginning Dec. 2. One of the big attractions for this year's holiday festival was the Nutcracker Cirque that featured acrobatics, magic and comedy for everyone to enjoy. Typhoon Nanmadol put a damper on the events, as the Nutcracker Cirque and other events had to be shut down due to bad weather. Though the storm didn't hit Kadena full force, it dumped more than 1.5 inches of rain with 46-knot (approximately 52 mph) wind gusts.

- Master Sgt. Mark Bowlin, 718th Aircraft Maintenance, was awarded the Bronze Star for motivating and helping his Airmen through harsh conditions while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom



## DECEMBER 17

- Combined Federal Campaign officials surpassed their goal this year of \$400,000 by raising more than \$406,000. Officials were also able to contact 100 percent of the base populous with an average donation of \$200 per person. Capt. Fenny Evers attributed some of the success in the campaign to the CFC golf tournament, car wash, and bowl-a-thon held last month to help catch up on contributions.

- Nearly 50 students from Bob Hope Primary School visited Camp Lester's Naval Hospital Dec. 15 to sing holiday carols for patients and hospital staff. Kadena members and volunteers also participated in holiday giving by presenting gifts to 84 children from the Ishimine Orphanage. Kadena volunteers also presented gifts to more than 200 mentally handicapped children and adults, and introduced Santa to more than 20 underprivileged children at the Yomitan Child Support Center.

